

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**Claims 2 to 4** (previously cancelled).

**Claims 5 to 15** (currently cancelled).

**Claim 16** (currently added)

A method of allowing consolidation of stratified architecture of epidermis and insuring the improvement of the mechanical properties of the skin without inducing any proliferation of the cells, in a warm-blooded animal comprising applying on the parts of the body of a warm-blooded animal in need thereof susceptible to showing aging, an effective amount of a topical composition containing an amount of an extract of *Padina pavonica* effective to promote the maturation of *Keratinocytes*.

**Claim 17** (currently added)

The method of claim 16 wherein the extract of *Padina pavonica* is produced by macerating the algae in the solvent to be evaporated.

**Claim 18** (currently added)

The method of claim 16 wherein the crude extract resulting from the evaporation of the solvent, is titrated and incorporated into a formulation.

**Claim 19** (currently added)

The method of claim 16 wherein the effective amount of the active extract of *Padina pavonica* ranges from 0.1 to 200 g per kg of the composition.

**Claim 20** (currently added)

The method of claim 18 wherein the crude extract is used after titration of such or diluted in an inert cosmetic vehicle.

**Claim 21** (currently added)

The method of claim 18 wherein the crude extract is incorporated in an excipient or a vehicle suitable for the realization of cosmetic compositions.

**Claim 22** (currently added)

The method of claim 16 wherein the topical composition is in the form of creams, suspensions, emulsions of the W/O, O/W or Si/W types, of gels, of pastes, or pomades or powders.

**Claim 23** (currently added)

The method of claim 16 wherein the concentration of extract of *Padina pavonica* in the cosmetic composition is such that the cosmetic composition contains from 0.1 to 200 g of *Padina* extract per kg of the composition.

**Claim 24** (currently added)

The method of claim 16 n which a preparation of algae extract of the family of *Dictyotales* is used in a culture medium to increase the maturation of *Keratinocytes*.

**Claim 25** (currently added)

The method of claim 16 wherein the titrate of 200,000 active units of the extract of *Padina* is defined in that 20 µl of crude extract is at least 50% of the synthetic activity of glycosaminoglycans of 200,000 fibroblasts.